

REMARKS

Claims 1-12, 14 and 15 are pending in the present application. The specification has been amended. This Reply is supplemental to the Reply filed on May 10, 2005. Reconsideration of this application, as amended, is respectfully requested.

Foreign Priority

The Examiner indicates that the Reply filed on May 10, 2005 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because the priority documents have not been submitted. As the Examiner will note, the priority documents have been filed concurrently herewith. In view of this, it is believed that the reply dated May 10, 2005 is now fully responsive.

As the Examiner will note, the priority documents submitted concurrently herewith are Japanese Application Numbers 2002-352854 and 2003-127337, which were filed in Japan on December 4, 2002 and May 2, 2003, respectively. When the present application was filed, a typographical error occurred in the Declaration which indicated incorrect Application No. 2003-321416. The first page of the present specification has been amended to correct this error. In addition, a Supplemental Application Data Sheet has been provided in order to correct the typographical error in the claim for foreign priority.

Acknowledgement of Applicant's claim for foreign priority and receipt of the priority documents are respectfully requested.

In view of the above, it is believed that the reply dated May 10, 2005 is now fully responsive to the Examiner's Office Action dated December 10, 2004.

CONCLUSION

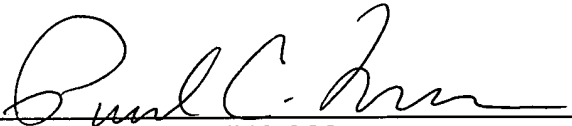
All the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed and/or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider all presently pending rejections and that they be withdrawn.

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the Office Action, and that as such, the Examiner is respectfully requested to send the application to Issue.

In the event there are any matters remaining in this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Paul C. Lewis, Registration No. 43,368 at (703) 205-8000 in the Washington, D.C. area.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

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Attachment(s)